

Customer No.: 31561
Application No.: 10/709,056
Docket No.: 12031-US-PA

REMARKS

Present Status of the Application

The drawings are objected under 37 CFR 1.121(d) and some typographic errors are founded in the specification and in the claim. In addition, the Office Action allowed claims 5-13 and rejected claims 1-4, 14-18. Specifically, the Office Action rejected claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kim (US 6,025,891) in view of Lee (U.S. 6,590,624). The Office Action rejected claims 14-18 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b), as being anticipated by Kim (US 6,025,891). Applicant has amended the typographic errors and Fig. 1A-1D to overcome the objection. Applicant has cancelled claims 1-4 and amended claim 14 to overcome the rejection. After entry of the foregoing amendments, claims 5-18 remain pending in the present application, and reconsideration of those claims is respectfully requested.

Discussion of Office Action objections

The legend "PRIOR ART" is required to add in Figs. 1, 2. Applicant has added the legend "PRIOR ART" in Figs. 1, 2.

At [0014] of the specification, "comprises" after "at least" is deleted.

In claim 15, "each of the shorting bars are...." is amended to "each of the shorting bars is".

Discussion of Office Action Rejections

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Applicants respectfully traverse the 102(b) rejection of claims 14-18 because Kim (US 6,025,891) does not teach every element recited in these claims.

In order to properly anticipate Applicants' claimed invention under 35 U.S.C 102, each and every element of claim in issue must be found, "either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference". "The identical invention must be shown in as complete details as is contained in the claim. Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co., 868 F. 2d 1226, 1236, 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989)." See M.P.E.P. 2131, 8th ed., 2001.

The present invention is in general related a testing apparatus as claim 14 recites:

Claim 14. A testing apparatus, for a flat-panel display comprising at least a plurality of electrode lines and a plurality of driving circuits for driving the electrode lines, and the testing apparatus comprising:

a plurality of switching components, electrically coupled to the electrode lines; and
at least one shorting bar set, electrically coupled to the switching components, wherein each shorting bar set has a plurality of adjacent shorting bars.

Kim discloses a LCD device, as shown in Fig. 2, in which a gate line mounting region 9 has several switching devices 12 and one shorting bar 5 therein and a data line mounting region 10 has several switching devices 12 and one shorting bar 6 therein. In the other words, the shorting bar 5 and the shorting bar 6 are respectively formed in different mounting regions and are not adjacent. Each mounting region (mounting region 9 or 10) only has one shorting bar therein. On the contrary, in claim 14 of the present invention, the shorting bar set has a plurality of adjacent shorting bars electrically coupled to the switching components. Kim does

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not teach or suggest that each shorting bar set has a plurality of adjacent shorting bars. Therefore, Kim does not teach every element recited in claim 14.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 14 patentably define over the prior art references, and should be allowed. For at least the same reasons, dependent claims 15-18 patentably define over the prior art as well.

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CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that the pending claims 5-18 are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

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Respectfully submitted,

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